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John Gerard Speare

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9720

47973

7590

07/28/2006

WORKMAN NYDEGGER/MICROSOFT
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EXAMINER

COLIN, CARL G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2136

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/697,916

Applicant(s)

SPEARE ET AL.

Examiner

Carl Colin

Art Unit

2136

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ____ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 5/23/2006 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. In response to communications filed on 5/23/2006, applicant has amended claims 1, 15, 29. The following claims 1-44 are presented for examination.

2.1 In response to communications filed on 5/23/2006, Applicant has not addressed the objection to claim 10 nor amended claim 10. Therefore the rejection of claim 10 remains.

2.2 Applicant's arguments, pages 18-20, filed on 5/23/2006, with respect to the rejection of claims 1-44 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that the reference does not teach or suggest allowing access to protected content when the principal does not have access to a rights management server. Examiner respectfully disagrees. Applicant mentions the abstract of Wyman for support of his/her arguments. However, it is noted that the server nodes of Wyman that applicant mistakenly interprets as right management server of the

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claimed invention is a “delegate” server (13) as shown in column 12, line 60 through column 13, line 8 and figure 1. As shown in the rejection below, Wyman discloses a principal not having access to a producer 28 or issuer 25 but access is allowed to protected content from delegate servers. Examiner acknowledges that Applicant recognizes that the term content refers to programs among many other examples provided in the second paragraph of page 16. In addition, the term program and licensed product of Wyman includes segments of programs, features, functions called by application programs data, such as printer fonts, music, graphic images, etc. (see column 2, lines 35-63 and column 9, lines 54-60). Applicant argues about Wyman not disclosing “pre-license” by stating that Wyman requires a connection with a license management server. As mentioned above and in the rejection below the server that applicant is referred to in Wyman is server 13 which is distinct from servers 10, 25, and 28 as claimed. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., the statement that all the independent claims contain the limitations of “pre-licensing” and several references to applicant's disclosure made by applicant in the remarks) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

The distinctions that applicant mentions above between the claimed invention and Misra have not overcome the prior art. Upon further consideration, the claims are still rejected in view of the same references, and the rejection of claims 1-44 is set forth below.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 10 is objected to because it should be dependent of claim 7 rather than claim 8 as the limitation of claim 10 is an alternative of claim 8 as specified in the specification on page 20, paragraph 54. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-9, 11-17, 19, 26-32, 34-38, 40, 42-44 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent 5,204,897 to Wyman.

As per claim 1, Wyman discloses in a messaging system comprising a rights management server (issuer in one embodiment or license server in other embodiment) that controls the type of operations principals can perform on protected content and a message server (delegates or license server) that receives messages and makes them available to principals or their agents, a method of pre-licensing content subject to rights management in order to allow a principal access to the content when the principal does not have access to the rights management server (column 10, lines 30-38 and column 11, lines 3-67), the method comprising acts of : (see also figure 1) receiving, by the message server (13), which is distinct from a rights management server (25), a

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message from a sending computer system (10) (column 11, lines 3-16), a message which is subject to rights management in that access to at least a part of the message is controlled through a rights management server (25) (column 11, lines 3-16 and column 10, lines 30-58), the rights management server issuing one or more user licenses that allow one or more principals to access the at least part of the message subject to rights management (column 11, lines 3-16 and column 10, lines 30-58).

Wyman also discloses receiving, by the message server (13) a publishing license (product use authorization) from a sending computer system (10) (column 11, lines 3-16 and column 10, lines 30-58); the publishing license containing a rights expression identifying the at least part of the message subject to rights management, specifying one or more intended recipients for the at least part of the message subject to rights management and specifying one or more rights for each of the one or more intended recipients (see column 12, lines 54-67 and column 14 lines 26-60 and see figure 2 with detailed explanation), the publishing license being previously acquired by the sending computer system (10) from the rights management server (column 11, lines 3-16 and column 10, lines 30-58). **Wyman** also discloses right expression that limits one or more principal's operation in at least one of re-licensing, printing, forwarding, and sharing of the message (see column 12, line 54 through column 13, line 8; column 13, lines 40-62 and column 14, lines 2-8; column 15, lines 7-16 and 17-63; column 20, lines 37-57; column 32, lines 32-67).

Wyman also discloses requesting by the message server (13) on behalf of the one or more principals, at least one use license for allowing the one or more principals access to the message wherein the request includes the publishing license to identify the at least part of the

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message subject to rights management server (column 11, lines 16-67 and column 7, line 30 through column 8, line 31).

Wyman further discloses receiving, by the message server on behalf of the one or more principals, the at least one use license so that the one or more principals may obtain the at least one use license from the message server and access the at least part of the message subject to rights management without having to request the at least one use license from the rights management server (column 11, lines 16-60 and column 7, line 30 through column 8, line 31);

providing by the message server to at least one or more principals one or more of the at least one use license (column 11, lines 16-38 and column 7, line 30 through column 8, line 31).

Wyman discloses receiving by the principal from the message server the content and the use license such that the principal may access the content in accordance with the use license at a time when the principal does not have access to a rights management server (25) (see column 13, lines 9-38); and discloses that authorization may be given to specific servers that user may only be allowed to access (column 12, line 60 through column 13, line 8). In another embodiment **Wyman** discloses at time there may be other server for the principal to obtain product and use authorization when a delegated server is not available (column 46, lines 42-59).

As per claim 2, Wyman discloses the limitation of wherein the at least a part of the message controlled through the rights management server is encrypted, and wherein the use license comprises a content key used in decrypting the part of the message that is encrypted, for example (see column 14, lines 60).

As per claim 3, Wyman discloses the limitation of wherein the part of the message that is encrypted is at least one of a protected contact, protected document, protected calendar item or protected meeting request, for example (see column 14, lines 60).

As per claims 5, 19, and 40, Wyman discloses to have the message server requests multiple use licenses on behalf of the one or more principals so that the one or more principals may access the message on multiple machines (see column 7, line 40 through column 8, line 22).

As per claims 7 and 30, Wyman discloses the limitation of wherein the publishing license includes a reference to the one or more principals such that when the message server requests the at least one use license, the rights management server may validate that the one or more principals are intended to have access to the message, for example (see column 16, lines 17-28).

As per claim 8, Wyman discloses the limitation of wherein the publishing license further includes at least one rights expression that limits the types of operations the one or more principals are allowed to perform with regard to copying of the message, for example (see column 7, lines 15-40; column 13, lines 55-58; and column 32, lines 65-67).

As per claim 9, Wyman discloses licensing specific features such as printing rather than a fixed policy for the whole package that meets the recitation of the limitation of wherein the at

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least one rights expression in the publishing license limits the types of operations the one or more principals operation of printing the message, for example (see column 2, lines 35-63).

As per claims 11 and 34, Wyman discloses the limitation of wherein the rights expression includes an expiration feature, which limits at least one of the number of times or a time period the at least one rights expression is available, for example (see column 12, lines 15-25 and column 32, lines 39-67).

As per claims 12, 26, 35, and 43, Wyman discloses the at least one principal is a process, user, machine, or server (see figure 1).

As per claims 13 and 27, Wyman discloses the limitation of wherein the publishing license further comprises one or more of a hash used to verify the message has not changed and a signing by the rights management server used to verify that the publishing license is valid, for example (see column 42, lines 10-22).

As per claims 14, 28, 36, and 44, Wyman discloses wherein the publishing license references multiple principals for which the message is intended and wherein the message server retrieves use licenses on behalf of the multiple principals by a batch request process for balancing the load on the rights management server (see Wyman, column 7, line 40 through column 8, line 22 and column 11, lines 10-18).

As per claim 15, Wyman discloses in a messaging system comprising a rights management server (issuer in one embodiment or license server in other embodiment) that controls the type of operations principals can perform on protected content and a message server (delegates or license server) that receives messages and makes them available to principals or their agents, a method of pre-licensing content subject to rights management in order to allow a principal access to the content when the principal does not have access to the rights management server (column 10, lines 30-38 and column 11, lines 3-67), the method comprising the steps for : (see also figure 1): determining that a message received from a sending computer system (10) (column 11, lines 3-16), is subject to rights management in that access to at least a part of the message is controlled through a rights management server (25) (column 11, lines 3-16 and column 10, lines 30-58), the rights management server issuing one or more user licenses that allow one or more principals to access the at least part of the message subject to rights management (column 11, lines 3-16 and column 10, lines 30-58).

Wyman also discloses using a publishing license (product use authorization) received from a sending computer system (10) (column 11, lines 3-16 and column 10, lines 30-58); the publishing license containing a rights expression identifying the at least part of the message subject to rights management, specifying one or more intended recipients for the at least part of the message subject to rights management and specifying one or more rights for each of the one or more intended recipients (see column 12, lines 54-67 and column 14 lines 26-60 and see figure 2 with detailed explanation), the publishing license being previously acquired by the sending computer system (10) from the rights management server (column 11, lines 3-16 and column 10, lines 30-58). **Wyman** also discloses right expression that limits one or more

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principal's operation in at least one of re-licensing, printing, forwarding, and sharing of the message (see column 12, line 54 through column 13, line 8; column 13, lines 40-62 and column 14, lines 2-8; column 15, lines 7-16 and 17-63; column 20, lines 37-57; column 32, lines 32-67).

Wyman further discloses obtaining, by the message server (13) which is distinct from a rights management server (25) on behalf of the one or more principals, at least one use license so that the one or more principals can obtain the at least one use license from the message server and access the at least part of the message subject to rights management without having to request the at least one use license from the rights management server (column 11, lines 16-60 and column 7, line 30 through column 8, line 31); wherein the use license provides the principal access to the content in accordance with the use license at a time when the principal does not have access to a rights management server (25) (see column 13, lines 9-38); and discloses that authorization may be given to specific servers that user may only be allowed to access (column 12, line 60 through column 13, line 8). In another embodiment **Wyman** discloses at time there may be other server for the principal to obtain product and use authorization when a delegated server is not available (column 46, lines 42-59).

As per claim 16, Wyman discloses the limitation of wherein the at least a part of the message controlled through the rights management server is encrypted, and wherein the use license comprises a content key used in decrypting the part of the message that is encrypted, for example (see column 14, lines 26-60).

As per claim 17, Wyman discloses the limitation of wherein the part of the message that is encrypted is at least one of a protected contact, protected document, protected calendar item or protected meeting request, for example (see column 14, lines 26-60).

As per claim 29, Wyman discloses in a messaging system comprising a rights management server (issuer in one embodiment or license server in other embodiment) that controls the type of operations principals can perform on protected content and a message server (delegates or license server) that receives messages and makes them available to principals or their agents, a computer program product comprising readable media carrying instructions that implement a method of pre-licensing content subject to rights management in order to allow a principal access to the content when the principal does not have access to the rights management server (column 10, lines 30-38 and column 11, lines 3-67), the method comprising acts of: (see also figure 1) receiving, by the message server (13), which is distinct from a rights management server (25), a message from a sending computer system (10) (column 11, lines 3-16), a message which is subject to rights management in that access to at least a part of the message is controlled through a rights management server (25) (column 11, lines 3-16 and column 10, lines 30-58), the rights management server issuing one or more user licenses that allow one or more principals to access the at least part of the message subject to rights management (column 11, lines 3-16 and column 10, lines 30-58).

Wyman also discloses receiving, by the message server (13) a publishing license (product use authorization) from a sending computer system (10) (column 11, lines 3-16 and column 10, lines 30-58); the publishing license containing a rights expression identifying the at

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least part of the message subject to rights management, specifying one or more intended recipients for the at least part of the message subject to rights management and specifying one or more rights for each of the one or more intended recipients (see column 12, lines 54-67 and column 14 lines 26-60 and see figure 2 with detailed explanation), the publishing license being previously acquired by the sending computer system (10) from the rights management server (column 11, lines 3-16 and column 10, lines 30-58).

Wyman also discloses receiving, by the message server (13) which is distinct from a rights management server (25), a publishing license (product use authorization) from a sending computer system (10) (column 11, lines 3-16 and column 10, lines 30-58); the publishing license containing a rights expression identifying the at least part of the message subject to rights management, specifying one or more intended recipients for the at least part of the message subject to rights management and specifying one or more rights for each of the one or more intended recipients (see column 12, lines 54-67 and column 14 lines 26-60 and see figure 2 with detailed explanation), the publishing license being previously acquired by the sending computer system (10) from the rights management server (column 11, lines 3-16 and column 10, lines 30-58). **Wyman** also discloses right expression that limits one or more principal's operation in at least one of re-licensing, printing, forwarding, and sharing of the message (see column 12, line 54 through column 13, line 8; column 13, lines 40-62 and column 14, lines 2-8; column 15, lines 7-16 and 17-63; column 20, lines 37-57; column 32, lines 32-67).

Wyman also discloses requesting by the message server (13) on behalf of the one or more principals, at least one use license for allowing the one or more principals access to the message wherein the request includes the publishing license to identify the at least part of the

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message subject to rights management server (column 11, lines 16-67 and column 7, line 30 through column 8, line 31).

Wyman further discloses receiving, by the message server on behalf of the one or more principals, the at least one use license so that the one or more principals may obtain the at least one use license from the message server and access the at least part of the message subject to rights management without having to request the at least one use license from the rights management server (column 11, lines 16-60 and column 7, line 30 through column 8, line 31);

Wyman discloses receiving wherein the at least one or more use license provides that the principal may access the content in accordance with the use license at a time when the principal does not have access to a rights management server (25) (see column 13, lines 9-38); and discloses that authorization may be given to specific servers that user may only be allowed to access (column 12, line 60 through column 13, line 8). In another embodiment **Wyman** discloses at time there may be other server for the principal to obtain product and use authorization when a delegated server is not available (column 46, lines 42-59).

providing by the message server to at least one or more principals one or more of the at least one use license (column 11, lines 16-38 and column 7, line 30 through column 8, line 31).

As per claim 31, Wyman discloses the limitation of wherein the publishing license further includes at least one rights expression that limits at least one of copying and delegating, for example (see column 7, lines 15-40; column 13, lines 55-58; and column 32, lines 65-67).

As per claim 32, Wyman also discloses right expression that limits one or more principal's operation in saving (see column 14, lines 2-8).

As per claim 37, claim 37 recites a computer program for implementing the method of claim 15. Wyman discloses software implementation process. Therefore claim 37 is rejected on the same rationale as the rejection of claim 15 above.

As per claim 38, Wyman discloses the limitation of wherein the at least a part of the message controlled through the rights management server is encrypted, and wherein the use license comprises a content key used in decrypting the part of the message that is encrypted, for example (see column 14, lines 60).

As per claim 42, Wyman discloses the limitation of wherein the rights expression includes an expiration feature, which limits at least one of the number of times or a time period the at least one rights expression is available, for example (see column 12, lines 15-25 and column 32, lines 39-67).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter

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sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4, 18, 21-23, 25, and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 5,204,897 to **Wyman** in view of US patent 6,189,146 to **Misra et al.**

As per claims 4, 18, and 39, Wyman substantially discloses the claimed method of claim 1. Although **Wyman** discloses in column 14, lines 26-60 use of signature and public/private key to ensure that the license document is authentic and discloses server identifier for identifying the server (column 12, lines 5-18), **Wyman** does not explicitly disclose sending an authentication to the rights management server to verify that the message server has the authority to obtain the at least one use license on behalf of the one or more principals, for example (see Misra, column 6, lines 30-65). Therefore these claims are rejected on the same rationale as the rejection of claim 1 above. **Misra** in an analogous art, discloses wherein the act of requesting at least one use license further includes sending an authentication to the rights management server to verify that the message server has the authority to obtain the at least one use license on behalf of the one or more principals, for example (see Misra, column 6, lines 30-65). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of **Wyman** to send an authentication to the rights

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management server to verify that the message server has the authority to obtain the at least one use license on behalf of the one or more principals because a verification analysis would help to ensure that the server is a real entity and that identification information of the server is true and accurate as suggested by Wyman above. One of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized the advantage of using authentication as to ensure that the server requesting information is a real entity and that identification information of the server is true and accurate as suggested by **Misra**, thus it would prevent unique license information to be sent to a wrong server or an impersonator (column 6, lines 30-65).

As per claim 21, the combination of **Wyman and Misra** discloses the limitation of wherein the publishing license includes a reference to the one or more principals such that when the message server requests the at least one use license, the rights management server may validate that the one or more principals are intended to have access to the message, for example (see Wyman, column 16, lines 17-28).

As per claim 22, the combination of **Wyman and Misra** discloses the limitation of wherein the publishing license further includes at least one rights expression that limits forwarding the message by the one or more principals, for example (see Wyman, column 7, lines 15-40; column 13, lines 34-46; and column 32, lines 32-67; see also Misra column 7, lines 1-12; column 1, lines 10-18 and lines 34-46; column 15, lines 29-36).

As per claim 23, Wyman discloses at least one rights expression in the publishing license limits the one or more principals operation of re-licensing, for example (see column 2, lines 35-63), for example (see **Wyman**, column 7, lines 15-40; column 13, lines 34-46; and column 32, lines 32-67; see also **Misra** column 7, lines 1-12; column 1, lines 10-18 and lines 34-46; column 15, lines 29-36).

As per claim 25, the combination of **Wyman and Misra** discloses the limitation of wherein the rights expression includes an expiration feature, which limits at least one of the number of times or a time period the at least one rights expression is available, for example (see **Wyman**, column 12, lines 15-25 and column 32, lines 39-67).

6. **Claims 6, 10, 20, 33, and 41** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 5,204,897 to **Wyman** in view of US Patent 6,330,670 to **England et al**.

As per claims 6, 20, and 41, Wyman discloses the claimed method of claim 1. **Wyman** also discloses right expression that limits one or more principal's operation in at least one of printing, and saving the message (see column 14, lines 2-8), re-licensing the message (column 15, lines 7-16 and 17-63; column 20, lines 18-67; column 32, lines 32-67), number of times the right expression is available (column 20, lines 9-43) among many other right expressions as cited in claim 1. **Wyman** does not explicitly disclose storing the use license separate from the message. **England et al** in an analogous art also teaches restriction of use license and also teaches right to copy or access such as read/write access (column 10, lines 14-25 and column 16,

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lines 40-50), and further teaches storing a content or a particular file wherein the at least one use license is stored by the server separate from the message in order to add security and control access to the storage of keys, for example (see column 19, lines 11-17 and column 20, lines 11-16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Wyman to have at least one use license stored by the server separate from the message because the separation adds security and control access to the storage of keys as suggested by **England et al.** One skilled in the art would have been lead to make such a modification as suggested by **England et al** because it would add additional security and control access to the storage of keys.

As per claims 10 and 33, Wyman discloses the claimed method and program of claims 1 and 29 respectively. **Wyman** also discloses right expression that limits one or more principal's operation in at least one of printing, (see column 2, lines 35-63). **Wyman** does not explicitly disclose wherein the rights expression is a default read value only. **England et al** in an analogous art also teaches restriction of use license and also teaches right to copy or access such as read/write access (column 10, lines 14-25 and column 16, lines 40-50). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Wyman to include the feature of read only so as to place restriction on the content and on specific functions an application can perform so that a content may not be modified by an untrusted application as suggested by **England et al.** One of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized some of the many advantages taught by **England et al** in the invention disclosed with respect to restricting right to protected content even after the content is

under the control of the client so that the client cannot reproduce or publish the work without permission (see column 1, lines 60-65).

7. **Claim 24** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 5,204,897 to **Wyman** in view of US patent 6,189,146 to **Misra et al** and further in view of US Patent 6,330,670 to **England et al**.

As per **claim 24**, both references disclose the claimed method of claim 21. **Wyman** also discloses right expression that limits one or more principal's operation in at least one of printing, (see column 2, lines 35-63). None of the references explicitly disclose wherein the rights expression is a default read value only. **England et al** in an analogous art also teaches restriction of use license and also teaches right to copy or access such as read/write access (column 10, lines 14-25 and column 16, lines 40-50). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method as combined above to include the feature of read only so as to place restriction on the content and on specific functions an application can perform so that a content may not be modified by an untrusted application as suggested by **England et al**. One of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized some of the many advantages taught by **England et al** in the invention disclosed with respect to restricting right to protected content even after the content is under the control of the client so that the client cannot reproduce or publish the work without permission (see column 1, lines 60-65).

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carl Colin whose telephone number is 571-272-3862. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, 8:00-6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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July 7, 2006


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